



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

climatic or environmental influences. The morphological characters of the stems and leaves were described and the particular features by virtue of which the dried moss is able to absorb such large quantities of water were pointed out. It was shown that dried *Sphagnum* is capable of absorbing as much or more per dry weight as the ordinary absorbent cotton used in making dressings.

The cells of the leaves are of two sorts. The smaller or narrower cells making a network, are green, while lying between the green cells we find much larger, empty cells whose walls are provided with large pores through which water may be absorbed from the outside. These cells are also characterized by thickened bands which serve to strengthen the system.

Numerous specimens of *Sphagnum* were exhibited. The methods by which the moss is harvested, dried, sorted and made into surgical dressings were described.

A number of the various kinds of dressings made with *Sphagnum* or with cotton were shown. The lecture was illustrated with lantern slides. It has been published in part in the *Journal of the New York Botanical Garden*.

Adjournment followed.

B. O. DODGE,
Secretary.

NEWS ITEMS

At the annual meeting of the Club held on January 14 the following officers were elected: *President*, H. M. Richards; *Vice Presidents*, J. H. Barnhart and C. Stuart Gager; *Secretary and Treasurer*, B. O. Dodge; *Editor*, A. W. Evans; *Associate Editors*, Jean Broadhurst, J. Arthur Harris, M. A. Howe, M. Levine, G. E. Nichols, A. B. Stout, and Norman Taylor. Dr. M. A. Howe was elected as the delegate of the club to the Council of the New York Academy of Sciences.

Prefessors Edward W. Berry and J. T. Singewald, Jr., of the Johns Hopkins University are planning to leave in April for a six months trip of geological and paleontological exploration in the Andes. The region that they will cover extends from Peru to southern Chile.

Dr. E. W. Olive, of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, spent some time during the past summer assisting government and state agents in locating plant diseases and instructing farmers how to combat them. An account of his experiences in part of New York and Virginia was given in a public lecture at the New York Botanical Garden on October 26, and was accompanied by lantern slides illustrating some of the most important and recently introduced diseases. Among these were the nematode disease of wheat found in Virginia and the potato wart disease discovered in Pennsylvania.

We learn from *Science* that Professor F. C. Newcombe of the University of Michigan "has been granted leave of absence for the second half year on the condition that he supply a substitute at his own cost." Professor Newcombe has been at the University since 1890.

Dr. L. T. Knight has been appointed plant physiologist in the division of plant pathology at the Minnesota experiment station.

Barrington Moore, formerly Associate Curator of Woods and Forestry at the American Museum of Natural History, and for sixteen months with the American Expeditionary Force in France, has received his discharge from military duty. Major Moore assisted Lt. Col. H. S. Graves, chief of the United States Forest Service, in organizing the forestry troops which produced lumber for the A. E. F. Major Moore later had charge of all purchases of wood in France and other European countries for the American Army. At the Baltimore meetings he was elected president of the Ecological Society of America.

Dr. F. W. Pennell, of the New York Botanical Garden, is spending some time at the United States National Herbarium studying the collections made in South America by Dr. J. N. Rose.

The conservatories of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, which, owing to shortage of coal and consequent crowding of the collections have been closed for over a year, have been reopened.